

Message Text

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C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 184125

EXDIS MIL ADDEES HANDLE AS SPECAT EXCLUSIVE

FOL REPEAT USNATO 4118 ACTION SECSTATE INFO ATHENS ANKARA
JULY 23, 1976

QUOTE

C O N F I D E N T I A L USNATO 4118

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS
TAGS: PFOR, NATO, GR, MARR
SUBJ: GREEK-NATO NEGOTIATIONS

REF: (A) USNATO 910 (DTG 191800Z FEB 76), (B) 75 USNATO 5503
(DTG 091505Z OCT 75)

SUMMARY: MEETING INFORMALLY, SEVERAL ALLIES AGREED THAT IT
WOULD BE PREMATURE FOR NATO TO EXERT PRESSURE ON GREECE AT
THIS TIME TO ADVANCE STATE OF PLAY IN GREEK-NATO
NEGOTIATIONS. END SUMMARY.

1. AT HIS INITIATIVE, ASSISTANT SECRETARY GENERAL HUMPHREYS
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(DEFENSE PLANNING AND POLICY) CONDUCTED AN INFORMAL "NON-

EETING" OF SELECTED ALLIES ON JULY 22, 1976 TO DISCUSS WHETHER OR NOT NATO SHOULD AT THIS TIME EXERT ANY PRESSURE ON GREECE FOR A REPLY TO THE ALLIES' RESPONSE (REF A) TO THE GREEK NINE-POINT STATEMENT (REF B), WHICH WAS CONVEYED TO THE GREEK AUTHORITIES IN LATE FEBRUARY. PRESENT, IN ADDITION TO US REP, WERE REPS FROM UK, FRGN NETHERLANDS, ITALY AND INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STAFF (IMS).

2. HUMPHREYS STATES THAT, WHILE NO ALLY IS PRESENTLY EXHORTING SYG LUNS TO EXERT PRESSURE ON GREECE FOR A REPLY, THE PASSAGE OF TIME MAKES NATO INCREASINGLY VULNERABLE TO THE CLAIM THAT IT IS TACITLY ASSISTING GREECE BY FAILING TO CONDUCT NEGOTIATIONS WITH REASONABLE DISPATCH. NOTING THAT TURKS HAD NOT BEEN INVITED TO THE MEETING, "BECAUSE THEIR VIEWS ARE WELL KNOWN," HUMPHREYS APPEALED FOR SECRECY ON THE CONVENING OF SUCH A MEETING, LEST THE EVENT IT SOUGHT TO AVOID BE PROMPTED BY ITS DISCLOSURE.

3. USNATO ACTING DEFAD EXPRESSED PERSONAL VIEW THAT US AUTHORITIES WOULD LIKELY REGARD NATO EFFORT TO PRESS GREEKS NOW ON GREECE NATO NEGOTIATIONS AS UNPROFITIOUS IN LIGHT OF ONGOING BILATERAL NEGOTIATIONS. OTHER REPS AGREED.

4. HUMPHREYS MENTIONED THAT DEPUTY SYG PANSA WOULD MAKE UNOFFICIAL, LOW-KEY APPROACH TO GREEK PERMREP THEODOROPOULOS, UPON RETURN OF LATTER FROM ATHENS, INQUIRING WHEN NATO MAY EXPECT A REPLY AND SUGGESTING THEREBY THAT CONTINUED SILENCE SHOULD NOT BE READ AS INDIFFERENCE.

5. COMMENT: FROM HUMPHREYS' REMARKS, WE JUDGE THAT CONCERN OF THE SYG AND INTERNATIONAL STAFF IS THAT THEY BE IN A POSITION TO TELL THE TURKS THAT THEY HAVE GIVEN THE GREEKS A NUDGE, SHOULD THE TURKS INQUIRE OR COMPLAIN ABOUT CONTINUED INACTIVITY. END COMMENT.

6. DEPARTMENT PLEASE PASS TO SECDEF, USNRM SHAPE, USCINCEUR, USDOCOSOUTH AND OTHER MILITARY ADDRESSEES AS APPROPRIATE. STRAUZ-HUPE

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